

We Claim:

1. A locator device comprising
5 an elongate member, said elongate member having a distal opening and a proximal opening which are connected by a lumen, said elongate member being adapted to extend into a blood vessel of a patient such that said distal opening is located in the lumen of the blood vessel and such that blood flow through said proximal opening is visible outside of the patient's body, and
10 said device being provided with an occlusion member located distally of said distal opening, said occlusion member being capable of substantially blocking blood flow out of said blood vessel when it is withdrawn from said blood vessel lumen.
2. The device of claim 1 wherein said occlusion member is releasably coupled to said elongate member.
- 15 3. The device of claim 2 wherein said occlusion member is expandable.
4. The device of claim 2 wherein said occlusion member is bioabsorbable.
5. The method of installing a closure device adjacent to, but outside of a puncture in a blood vessel wall comprising the steps of
introducing an elongate member through a tract extending from said puncture to
20 the patient's skin, said elongate member having a first opening in its distal region, a second opening in its proximal region and a lumen extending between said first opening and said second opening,
said elongate member being provided with an occlusion member located distally

of said first opening,

advancing said elongate member until said first opening is located within the lumen of said blood vessel such that blood flows into said first opening and not out of said second opening, and

5 withdrawing said elongate member until the flow of blood into said first opening is substantially prevented.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein said occluding member is releasably coupled to said elongate member and said occluding member is released from said elongate member.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said occluding member is released of substantially
10 the same time that blood flow into said first opening is substantially prevented.